



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Bureau of Standards  
Washington, D.C. 20234

Date: May 20, 1970

Reply to:  
Attn of:

\*DOC Exemption Letter In EUR File\*

Subject: Request for Comments on a Proposed Federal Information Processing Standard  
for COBOL

To: Federal Departments and Independent Offices

Attached is a draft FIPS PUB for COBOL (Common Business Oriented Language) which has been prepared by the NBS Office of Information Processing Standards. This proposed standard is forwarded for your review and comment prior to its being recommended to the Bureau of the Budget for adoption as a Federal Information Processing Standard.

In your response on this proposed standard please address the following points:

1. Indicate your concurrence or nonconcurrence with the proposed standard. If you find that you cannot concur, please indicate what specific changes you consider necessary to satisfy your requirements.
2. Indicate to what extent the proposed standard is applicable to the data systems within your organization.
3. Provide information concerning the implementation impact and potential benefits that would be derived by your organization from the use of the proposed standard.
4. If applicable, please cite routines developed by your agency to validate or evaluate COBOL compilers conforming to the specifications of this proposed standard. Also, based on your experience, indicate how successful these routines have been in performing these functions. (NBS would like to obtain information on all such routines available. These routines will contribute to the NBS objective of providing effective audit and evaluation tools for use by the Federal data processing community.
5. Indicate the number of copies of the standard needed by your organization when these are published and made available for distribution. These will be distributed on a sales basis by the General Services Administration specifications activity.

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Please return your comments to this office as soon as possible but no later than 3 months from the date of this letter.

If you have questions or wish to arrange for a meeting on the subject of this proposed standard, please contact Mr. Robert E. Rountree, Jr., Center for Computer Sciences and Technology, Office of Information Processing Standards, telephone IDS Code 164, Extension 3551.

*HR J Grosch*

H.R.J. Grosch  
Director  
Center for Computer Sciences  
and Technology

Attachments